

CLASSIFICATION - RESTRICTED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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EXPANSION OF RUMANIAN CULTURAL FACILITIES

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According to Romania Libera of 9 September, the cultural centers, reading centers, and libraries of Rumania have all increased their activities in rural areas during 1952. In 1948, there were 4,809 libraries, with a total of 611,694 books, whereas in 1952 there are 11,949 libraries, with a total of 5,015,403 volumes. There are, in addition, 12,060 reading centers where both Rumanian and Soviet books are available. Also, there are 2,945 general cultural centers and 2,080 agrotechnical centers throughout Rumania. (1)

The 16 September issue of the same newspaper stated that over 30 cultural centers have been completed in Ploesti Regiune through the medium of self-taxation of the population. The peasants from Tismania village constructed a cultural center, using over 9,000 lie of their own money for this work. The peasants performed voluntary work to complete the building ahead of schedule. (2)

On 30 September, Romania Libera described the rapid increase in the culture of the population of Craiova Regiune. For the first time in its history, Craiova has a city symphony orchestra, called "Filarmonica de Stat Oltenia." Former museums of that city have all been reorganized and rearranged, and new museums have appeared in the villages of the regiune. Five motion picture caravans presented over 1,558 films, which were attended by approximately 111,428 workers. During 1953, the regiune expects to construct over 195 cultural centers through the medium of self-taxation. (3)

In a discussion of Soviet literary works in Rumania, the 21 October issue of Scanteia stated that sales of Rumanian editions of the works of Stalin and Lenin have reached 9 million copies. The total number of works published by the Rumanian Communist Party from January 1949 until October 1952 was 17,391,060 copies. (4)

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According to Romania Libera of 14 September, the Didactic and Pedagogic Publishing House of Rumania is reaching its peak activity at the beginning of the 1952 - 1953 school year. This publishing house prepares all manuals for use in elementary and secondary schools. During the 1952 - 1953 school year, over 269 different books are scheduled to be printed in Rumanian and in the languages of other minority groups living in Rumania [Hungarian, German, Greek, Turkish, Bulgarian, and Jewish].

Among the books appearing for the first time this year, according to the article, are the following: Principles of Darwinism, a biology manual for the 9th and 11th grades, published in Rumanian, Hungarian, and German; Grammar of the Hungarian Language, for the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th grades; Grammar of the Hungarian Language, for the 8th and 9th grades; German Grammar, for the 1st, 2d, and 3d grades.

Over 11 million copies of school manuals are to be printed during the 1952 - 1953 school year. This number represents an increase of 4 million copies over the number of the preceding year.(5)

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1. Romania Libera, 9 Sep 52
2. Ibid., 16 Sep 52
3. Ibid., 30 Sep 52
4. Scanteia, 21 Oct 52
5. Romania Libera, 14 Sep 52

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